

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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## INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Changes in PSP Leadership in Oriente,  
Camaguey and Habana Provinces.

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1. The long-time treasurer of the Partido Socialista Popular (PSP, Cuban Communist Party) National Executive Board, Ramon Nicolau, was recently relieved of his position because of large debts he incurred through mismanagement of Party finances. Nicolau's successor, Manuel Luzardo Garcia, is the former president of the Habana Provincial Committee, PSP. The individual named to replace Luzardo Garcia as president of the Habana Provincial Committee PSP is Segundo Quincosa, previously secretary of the Communist Federacion de Trabajadores de la Provincia de La Habana.\*
2. A recent incorporation into the present Juventud Socialista as Organization Secretary of the Juventud Socialista National Committee is the leader of the predecessor organization (Liga Juvenil Comunista), Miguel Faustino Calcines Gordillo. Calcines Gordillo, a visitor in the Soviet Union a few months ago, is also in charge of labor affairs for the PSP, Las Villas Province, and PSP congressional representative from that Province. A close associate of Calcines Gordillo, Luis Fajardo Escalona (aka: "Escalonito"), also a former leader of the Liga Juvenil Comunista, Habana Province, has recently been taken into the Juventud Socialista, Habana Province; prior to this action, Escalona was president of the PSP Chavez Barrio Committee; at the present time he is a member of the PSP Executive Committee for Habana Province.
3. The PSP in Oriente Province, according to persistent rumors, is having difficulties in its Party leadership. Prior to the elections in June 1950 Cesar Vilar lost considerable favor in the Party hierarchy by his selfish behavior. It is believed that attempts are being made by Blas Roca to eliminate Vilar and his supporters and substitute for them men upon whom he can depend. The Party's reorganization taking place at the present time and the desires of several Communists to be nominated, not only as candidates for congressional elections, but as candidates for positions in the Party hierarchy of Oriente Province, are the cause of unrest. In view of the above, a circular has been sent by the National Executive Committee, to all the ward and municipal committees in the Province, via the Oriente Province Executive Committee; this circular is for the purpose of instructing the members on how they should vote and the men who should be elected.

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4. In an attempt to solve the Party unrest in Oriente Province, Leonidas Calderio, brother of Blas Roca and Party leader of Oriente Province, had a prolonged interview with his brother and the PSP National Executive Committee during the week of 9-16 October. Leonidas Calderio was instructed by the National Executive Committee to take the following steps:

a. With care and secrecy, so that the procedure will not arouse further trouble within the Party ranks, the supporters of Cesar Vilar are to be "politically" eliminated at all costs.

b. By means of circulars, the masses are to be shown which men in the Party would best suit the interests of the Party in Oriente Province, when and if they are elected in June 1952.

c. Through slow and careful efforts, in contrast to more obvious opposition, Cesar Vilar's position is to be undermined; at the same time, Vilar's possible triumph in the election of June 1952 is to be accepted for the moment, in spite of the Party's real desire to strip him of his power.

d. By proper stress of propaganda media, point out that absolute faith in the PSP Executive Board and in their leader, Blas Roca, is a necessity for the militant members.

e. And finally, keep the Executive Committee constantly informed concerning the Party affiliations evidenced in the Oriente Province, in addition to the voting support the various candidates are getting\*\*

5. According to the 12 September edition of "Carta Semanal", semi-clandestine Communist bulletin, the leadership of the PSP in Camaguey Province was taken away from Justo Tamayo because he had lost his "political vision". Adalberto del Pino, well-known Communist leader active in peasant affairs, and Ursinio Rojas, well-known Communist labor leader in sugar workers' syndicate, (Federacion Nacional de Trabajadores Azucareros), were placed in charge of PSP activities in Camaguey Province. The article further stated that Maximino Mendoza, Humberto Cartaya Dioscorides, and Diego Espinosa, all members of the Camaguey Province Executive Committee, had also been relieved of their assignments.

6. Of interest in connection with the above, the following travel of prominent Communists between Habana and Santiago de Cuba was noted:

On 27 September Edith Garcia Buchaca flew from Habana to Santiago de Cuba.

On 28 September Blas Roca flew from Habana to Santiago de Cuba.

On 4 October Joaquin Ordoqui flew from Habana to Santiago de Cuba.

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Comment: The Comision de Orden, the PSP shock-troop unit, has been reorganized recently. The new president of the Habana Provincial Committee, PSP (see para. 1 above), Segundino Quincosa, an old member of the Comision, has been named "responsable" in charge of the selection of personnel for this group, along with his other new duties. As a consequence of the reorganization of the Comision de Orden, its chief current functions are to guard the places where the PSP is signing up affiliates to their Party and to take care of and to guard the more important meeting places of the Party. Several of the former Comision's toughest members are not now desirous of joining the reorganized Comision de Orden.

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Comment: Candidates from Oriente Province are proposed in lesser numbers than in any other Province, Cesar Vilar and Romarico Cordero being listed on the slate for Senator, and Luis Mariano Avalos for Representative. This minimum of congressional candidates from Oriente Province for the PSP is worthy of note.

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